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SOUVENIR PROGRAMME

Dedication of the

RHODES MEMORIAL

GROOTE SCHUUR
CAPETOWN
5th July 1912.

The Rhodes
National South African Memorial

DEDICATION
OF THE
MEMORIAL
AT GROOTE SCHUUR, CAPETOWN
BY
The Right Hon. Earl Grey, G.C.B.
G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.
FRIDAY, 5TH JULY,
1912.

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The Rhodes
National South African Memorial.

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The Right Hon. Earl Grey, G.C.B.,
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FRIDAY, 5TH JULY,

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CAPETOWN :

"Hail! snatched and bartered oft from hand to hand
I dream my dream, by rock and heath and pine,
Of Empire to the northward. Ay, one land
From Lion's Head to Line!"

—*Rudyard Kipling.*



Bronze Bas-relief at Groote Schuur

CECIL JOHN RHODES.

When that great Kings return to clay
 Or Emperors in their pride,
Grief of a day shall fill a day,
 Because its creature died.
But we—we reckon not with those
 Whom the mere Fates ordain
This Power that wrought on us and goes
 Back to the Power again.

Dreamer devout, by vision led
 Beyond our guess or reach,
The travail of his spirit bred
 Cities in place of speech.
So huge the all-mastering thought that drove—
 So brief the term allowed—
Nations not words he linked to prove
 His faith before the crowd.

It is his will that he look forth
 Across the lands he won—
The granite of the ancient North—
 Great spaces washed with sun.
There shall he patient make his seat
 (As when the death he dared)
And there await a people's feet
 In the paths that he prepared.

There, till the vision he foresaw
 Splendid and whole arise,
And unimagined Empires draw
 To council 'neath the skies.
The immense and brooding Spirit still
 Shall quicken and control.
Living he was the land, and dead
 His soul shall be her soul!

RUDYARD KIPLING.

The following are among the centres in South Africa from which subscriptions were received towards the Memorial:—

Aberdeen.
Adelaide.
Annesdale.
Aliwal North.

Breidback.
Burghersdorp.
Britstown.
Bloemfontein.
Barberton.
Basutoland.
Beira.
Blantyre, B.C.A.
Bechuanaland.
Blythswood.
Braunschweig.

Capetown.
Cala.
Cambridge.
Claremont.
Caledon.
Ceres.
Colesberg.
Cathcart.
Cradock.
Clanwilliam.
Constantia.
Columba.
Cookhouse.

Durban.
Darling.
Daniel's Kuil.
Dordrecht.

East London.
Estcourt.
Engcobo.

Fort Beaufort.
Fraserburg.

Grahamstown.
George.
Graaff Reinet.
Germiston.
Greytown.
Griqualand East.

Hanover.
Howick.
Humansdorp.
Hopetown.
Heidelberg, C.P.
Heald Town.
Herbertsdale.

Indwe.
Ixopo.

Johannesburg.
Jansenville.

King Williams Town.
Knysna.
Kokstad.
Klerksdorp.
Komgha.
Kingswood.
Kimberley.

Ladybrand.
Laingsburg.
Lady Grey.
Lovedale.

Macleantown.
Matatiele.
Maitland.
Mashonaland.
Maseru.
Maraisburg.
Molteno,
Mafeking,
M'bulu.
Malan.

Newcastle.
Natal.
Norvals Pont.

Oudtshoorn.

Potchefstroom.
Pietermaritzburg.
Paarl.
Pearston.
Port St. John.
Prieska.
Port Shepstone.
Plettenberg Bay.
Prince Albert.
Peddie.
Porth Nolloth.
Prince Alfred.
Port Elizabeth.

Queenstown.

Riversdale.
Rondebosch.
Richmond.
Robertson.
Rosebank.
Ross.
Rorkes Drift.

Salt River.
Sidbury.
Somerset West.
Somerset Strand.
Somerset East.
Simonstown.
Sterkstroom.
Steynsburg.
Stanger.
Swellendam.
Stanford.
Salisbury.
Stutterheim.
Seymour.
St. Cuthbert.
Sea Point.

Tulbagh.
Tarkastad.
Tembuland.
Tsikoane.
Tsolo.
Tutura.
Tulbagh Road.

Victoria West.
Vryburg.

Umtata,
Uitenhage.
Umgala.
Umtali.

Wellington.
Woodstock.
Winburg.
Whittlesea.
Wynberg.
Wakkerstroom.

Zuurbraak.

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Aberdeen.
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Alma Norris.

Berkhoek.
Bethersberg.
Bethtown.
Bloemfontein.
Barberton.
Beaconsfield.
Boksburg.
Bloemhof.
Blantyre, B.C.A.
Bechuanaland.
Blythewood.
Braamfontein.

Capetown.
Cala.
Cambridge.
Claremont.
Caledon.
Ceres.
Colesberg.
Cathcart.
Cradock.
Clanwilliam.
Constantia.
Calvinia.
Cookhouse.

Durban.
Darling.
Daniel's Kuil.
Docksrust.

East London.
Estcourt.
Empondo.

Fort Beaufort.
Fraserburg.

Grahamstown.
Geneva.
Grand Rainet
Germiston.
Greytown.
Griqualand East.

Hanover.
Horwick.
Hopemansdorp.
Hopetown.
Heidelberg, C.P.
Heidelberg, Transvaal.
Hard Town.
Herbertsdale.

Ladismith.
Lydenburg.
Lichtenburg.
Lourenco Marques.

Middelburg, C.P.
Middelburg, Transvaal.
Mossel Bay.
Malmesbury.
Matjesfontein.
Matatiele.
Maitland.
Middelpunt.
Mossel Bay.
Mafeking.
Malan.

Newcastle.
Natal.
Norvals Pont.

Oudtshoorn.

Potchefstroom.
Pietermaritzburg.
Paarl.
Paarden.
Port St. John.
Pilgrim.
Port Shepstone.
Piketberg Bay.
Prince Albert.
Paddis.
Perth Nolloth.
Prince Alfred.
Port Elizabeth.

Queenstown.

Riversdale.
Ronbloempk.
Richmond.
Robertson.
Rosebank.
Ross.
Ripley Drift.

Salt River.
Sidbury.
Somerset West.
Somerset Strand.
Somerset East.
Simonstown.
Stellenbosch.
Stellenbosch.
Steytlerville.
Stutterheim.
Springbok.
Sea Point.

Tarkastad.
Tarkastad.
Tembuland.
Tulbagh Road.

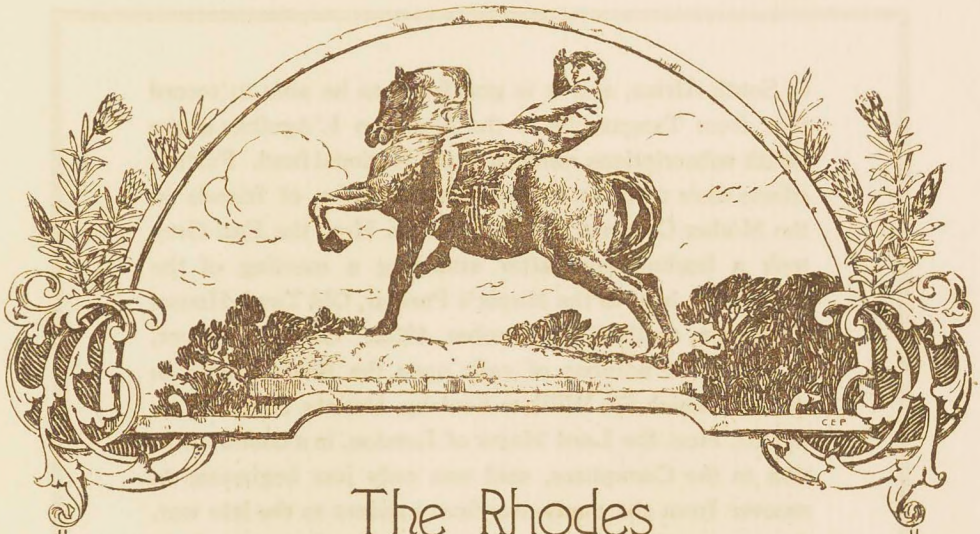
Victoria West.
Virginia.

Wellington.
Woodstock.
Wilberg.
Whittlesea.
Wynberg.
Waterkloof.

Zastron.



1853 *Cecil John Rhodes* 1902



The Rhodes
National South African Memorial.

THE Town House, Greenmarket Square, Capetown, has witnessed many important gatherings of the citizens of the Cape Peninsula, and one of the largest of these assembled at the invitation of the then Mayor, Councillor W. Thorne, on the 16th April, 1902, when the following resolution was adopted:—

> "That in the opinion of this meeting, Capetown, as the Capital of the Cape Colony, should inaugurate a fund towards the erection of a National South African Memorial in honour of the late Rt. Hon. Cecil John Rhodes, to consist of a colossal statue, to be erected in the City or its immediate neighbourhood."

Steps were immediately taken for the purpose of collecting subscriptions throughout the length and breadth

of South Africa, and it is gratifying to be able to record that from Tanganyika in the North to L'Agulhas in the South subscriptions rolled in to the National fund. Further efforts were made to interest the sympathy of friends in the Mother Country, in which the Rt. Hon. the Earl Grey took a leading part after attending a meeting of the Committee held in the Mayor's Parlour, Old Town House, Capetown, on the 22nd October, 1902. Owing, however, to the great number of calls upon the British public in general, which Sir William Soulsby, Private Secretary to the Rt. Hon. the Lord Mayor of London, in a communication to the Committee, said was only just beginning to recover from the many sacrifices incident to the late war, the movement could not be officially inaugurated in England. The Committee were determined, however, that every effort should be made to complete a Memorial worthy of the great Empire Builder whom it was destined to honour and commemorate.

The first section of the Memorial took the form of a bronze statue, the work of Mr. Thos. Pegram, A.R.A., which is erected in the Municipal Gardens, within the heart of the City of Capetown, and which may be described as the Citizens' Memorial to the Founder of Rhodesia. The site, however, of this statue must be regarded as temporary, as it was really designed for a position at the foot of the historic Oak Avenue at the junction of Adderley Street near the Houses of Parliament so soon as the Government is able to set back the old Supreme Court Buildings.

The Executive Committee, fortified by generous contributions from the late Mr. A. Beit, and the Shareholders of De Beers Company, the Chartered Company,

The Rhodes Memorial.

and the Consolidated Goldfields of South Africa, in addition to the public subscriptions, were able to consider a scheme for the erection of a memorial at Groote Schuur. The Committee adopted the site on Saturday, 18th February, 1905. The site selected is on a part of Table Mountain which was dearly beloved by Rhodes himself, for he made a roadway to it and placed a seat there. From this commanding position a very wide view is obtained. To the North Table Bay in the Atlantic, to the South False Bay in the Indian Ocean, and Eastwards over the wide-stretching Cape Flats to the distant peaks of the Hottentots Holland and the plateau of the South African hinterland.

Sitting on the teak seat just below the Temple or riding silently in the vicinity Rhodes would dream for hours together. There can be no doubt of the force exerted upon the mind of the famous statesman in the contemplation of such a prospect. It must have broadened and extended the grandeur of his schemes for the extension of "Empire to the Northward," "One land, from Lion's Head to Line." Notwithstanding the distance of Rhodesia, Table Mountain was the centre of the political creations of his dreams. It seemed therefore to the Committee that here only should the National Monument to him be erected.

On the 20th February, 1905, the Executive Committee considered a proposal put forward by Mr. Herbert Baker. It was then suggested that the Memorial should take the form of a bastion with a series of platforms and steps of access on either side. This met with the approval of the Committee and was carried into effect by the firm of Messrs. Herbert Baker and Francis Masey. In the

centre of the platform upon a pedestal it was suggested that the famous Equestrian Group in bronze by the late G. F. Watts, R.A., known as "Physical Energy," should be placed, representing a man reining in his strong horse after some great deed achieved and scanning the future for his next conquest. The late sculptor had desired that this group should become his gift to South Africa out of affectionate regard and admiration for the genius of Cecil John Rhodes. It was further proposed that panels of bronze illustrating episodes in the life of Mr. Rhodes should be provided while at the back or mountain side a peristyle or colonnade should be constructed, to form a suitable architectural background to the centre work, and provide rest and shade for those visiting the spot. The Rt. Hon. Earl Grey was approached with regard to "Physical Energy" and kindly undertook to consult with Mrs. Watts with a view to the same being associated with the memorial. Fortunately the Rt. Hon. the Earl Grey and the Rt. Hon. Sir Starr Jameson, were successful in arranging that the group should become the central feature of the memorial, and arrangements were accordingly made by the Committee for the removal of the group from the Octagon at Burlington House, London, its transport over-sea and ultimate erection at the Monument on the slopes of Table Mountain, where this gift of one of the greatest of British Sculptors to the people of South Africa will stand for all time.

Professor Lethaby, one of the ablest of English art critics, says of this group: "A nation that can produce Watts' 'Physical Energy' cannot be wanting in genius."

The authority of the Rhodes Trustees was given to the proposed erection of the memorial in the grounds of

Groote Schuur on the 25th April, 1906, and the construction was then commenced within those grounds which Rhodes had bequeathed to the people of South Africa.

The Temple is built of a coarse grey granite hewn from the base of the mountain itself. Its many and massive columns frame beautiful views in all directions of mountain, forest, sea and blue distance.

In 1907 the Committee found themselves in a position to arrange for the late Mr. J. M. Swan, the famous British Sculptor, to visit South Africa for the purpose of discussing the completion of the sculpture of the Memorial. Mr. Swan had been consulted in London with regard to the matter, and plans had been prepared and put before the Committee, but it was not until he was personally brought under the influence of the mountain and was able to see for himself the grandeur of the conception of the memorial that he was in a position to definitely advise the Committee. Writing from Groote Schuur on the 22nd October, 1907, to the Rhodes Memorial Committee he pointed out:—

> "That the size of the lions which were shewn upon the plan submitted to him in London was altogether too small, and that a considerable increase both in the size of the figures, and in the weight of the bronze would be necessary, as he found it necessary that the lions should be proportionate to the heroic size of the famous 'Physical group.'"

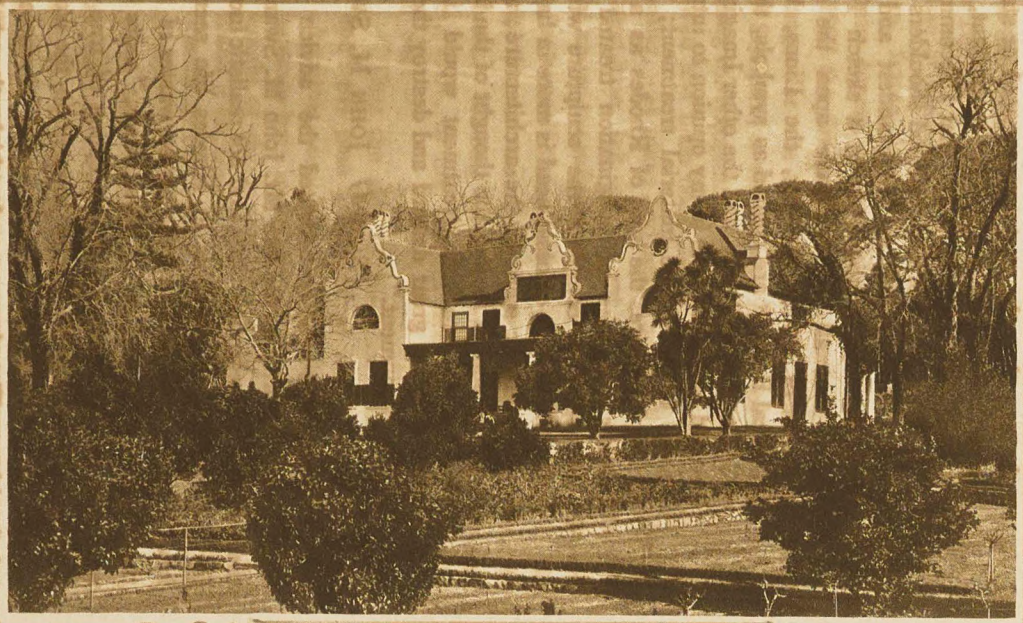
Mr. Swan had further been charged by the Committee with the responsibility of representing the great statesman in bronze, and in this connection he advised the Committee that he had:—

> "given much thought to a representation in sculpture of the spirit of Rhodes, as a great

thinker, upon the mountain, well suited to the character of the monument, its site, and associated sculpture; that the customary seated or standing figure is not well suited to this monument, being out of place upon the steps, that I recommend a colossal treatment of the head and shoulders in the position of Thought, as the grandest and most poetic conception according to a sketch I have made; that all the sculpture upon the monument is of an ideal order, the Lions, Watts' 'Physical Energy' are treated as symbols, the one of Courage and Dignity, and the other Imaginative. It would be unfortunate in my opinion to introduce a mere commonplace material treatment; in my opinion it requires the head of Rhodes as a great Thinker and man of imagination treated in a poetic spirit to complete the sculpture with the noblest ideal. A colossal head is more in harmony with the Doric spirit of the architecture; all the sculpture should further the thought of the highest ideals, and a realistic treatment would in my opinion create great discord and destroy the spirit of the monument."

(Signed) JOHN M. SWAN.

The Committee readily accepted the advice of so eminent an authority as the late Mr. John M. Swan as to the sculpture representing ideas and not realistic incidents, for the two highest thoughts in Rhodes life seemed to have been the civilisation of the barren wastes of Africa, the thought employed in his own words, "more homes, more homes," and secondly his conception of true education, which was possibly a new thought in the world, as combining physical courage and moral character with scholarship. The bust round which the dedication ceremony is centred, is possibly the last work of the late



Groote Schuur.

John M. Swan, and certainly portrays Rhodes as a great thinker, imaginative statesman and empire builder. At the same time it is probably the best actual likeness of Rhodes that will be handed down to posterity. It is further interesting to note that while Swan actually modelled lions on the site of the memorial, it was not until he visited Egypt that his genius shaped the lions which now adorn the steps leading up to the temple. These lions, it will be observed, take their inspiration from the Sphinx lions of the Egyptian temples. Rhodes had a special veneration for the avenue of repeating Sphinxes which stretch for a mile or more in a straight line outside the great temple of Karnac. All visitors to the memorial must agree that the type of lion designed by Swan gives expression to the qualities of calm and reserved strength and power, whereas most representations of the lion in periods, after the Egyptian, embody more often the qualities of restlessness and ferocity. This is the explanation of the archæic convention in Swan's lions, which thus express the energy and calm power of Rhodes, while in the colossal head the sculptor has imprisoned "the great and brooding spirit" of the Founder of Rhodesia.

Mr. Herbert Baker, whose architectural genius is largely responsible for the monument, and who knows better than anyone the architectural conceptions of Rhodes states, that it was at one time Mr. Rhodes' intention to build near this spot a great "temple" as he called it. His object was to make a huge enclosure for his lions, in order that they might be housed with the greatest possible freedom and amidst natural and beautiful surroundings. On one side of the colossal cage he would have built a great columned portico, for the

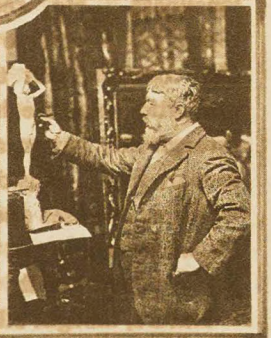
general treatment and scale of which he had in mind the Greek Doric Temple at Paestum. The idea in his mind was, that the attraction of the King of Beasts and the noblest architecture, would bring people to the mountain side, where art and nature together at their best, must perforce, he thought, lift them out of themselves and inspire them with lofty thoughts. He fervently believed that this view from the Eastern spurs of Table Mountain excelled any other prospect in the world by its beauty, as much as the spot, which is now his final resting place on the Matoppos, exceeded all other in its grandeur and loneliness. He recognised that Architecture, in the repose of its massive walls, and the rhythm of its arches and columns, had the magic power to give scale and proportion and the human sense to landscape, and that through this power, art became the interpreter of nature to man, for as Ruskin puts it—"Architecture is the art which so disposes and adorns the edifices raised by man, for whatsoever uses, that the site of them may contribute to his mental health, power and pleasure."

Nature, thought Rhodes, had done her share in lavishing her richest gifts on the Cape Peninsula and it was the duty of man to complete and perfect nature by noble works of art.



The Rt. Hon. Earl Grey





The Late G. F. Watts R.A.

The Late J. M. Swan, R.A.



Herbert Baker, Esq. F.R.I.B.A.

The Rhodes National South African Memorial Committee

(1903).

Chairman

His Worship the Mayor of Capetown.

Buissinne, W. T.
Brydone, R. R.
Baxter, W. Duncan
Bender, Rev. A. P., M.A.
Balen, Herbert, F.R.I.B.A.

Cartwright, the Hon. J. D.
Cowper, Sydney, C.M.G.
Currey, J. B.
Cumming, W. G.
The Very Rev. the Dean of Capetown
(Charles W. Barnett-Clarke, M.A.)

Earp, E. J.
Edwards, E. J.

Finch, J. R.

Garlick, John
Gibbs, C. M.

Irwin, W. J.

Jagger, J. W., M.I.C.A.
Jameson, the Rt. Hon. Sir Starr
Jenkins, Rev. Canon W. Owen

Liberman, H., J.P.

Lewis, C. A. Owen, D.S.O.
Lewis, Prof. C. E., M.A.

Mayors of Cape Municipalities.
McClure, Rev. Dr. J. J.
Massey, Francis, F.R.I.B.A.
Michell, Sir Lewis

Nash, Maynard

O'Reilly, T. J., C.M.G.

Proctor, John

Southey, Colonel R. G.
Stephan, H. R.
Stephen, J. M., J.P.
Stevens, J. A.
Schreiner, Theo. L.
Smartt, the Hon. Sir Thomas W.
St. Leger, F. L.
Simkins, W. V.
Syfret, E. R.
Silbertauer, C. E.

Thorne, Sir William, J.P.

Welch, Rev. Dr. S. R.
Watson, J. A. S.

The following was the Sub-Executive Committee appointed with full power to complete the Memorial :—

His Worship the Mayor of Capetown.
(Councillor Sir Frederick Smith, Kt., J.P.).

The Hon. Sir Thomas W. Smartt, K.C.M.G.

Mr. H. Liberman, J.P. Mr. J. W. Jagger, M.I.C.A.
Sir William Thorne, Kt., J.P. Mr. J. M. Stephen, J.P.

Mr. W. Duncan Baxter, M.I.C.A., J.P.
(Deputy Mayor of Capetown).

Messrs. Baker & Massey, Architects.

Mr. J. R. Finch, Hon. Secretary.

The construction was carried out by Mr. J. R. McKillop, under the direction of Mr. Francis Massey, F.R.I.B.A.

The Rhodes National South African Memorial Committee

(1902).

Chairman:

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR OF CAPETOWN.

Buissinne, W. T.
Brydone, R. R.
Baxter, W. Duncan
Bender, Rev. A. P., M.A.
Baker, Herbert, F.R.I.B.A.

Cartwright, the Hon. J. D.
Cowper, Sydney, C.M.G.
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Cumming, W. G.
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Earp, E. J.
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Finch, J. R.

Garlick, John
Gibbs, C. M.

Irwin, W. J.

Jagger, J. W., M.L.A.
Jameson, the Rt. Hon. Sir Starr
Jenkins, Rev. Canon W. Owen

Liberman, H., J.P.

Lewis, C. A. Owen, D.S.O.
Lewis, Prof. C. E., M.A.,

Mayors of Cape Municipalities.
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Masey, Francis, F.R I.B.A.
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Nash, Maynard

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Sir William Thorne, Kt., J.P — Mr. J. M. Stephen, J.P.

Mr. W. Duncan Baxter, M.L.A., J.P.
(Deputy Mayor of Capetown).

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Mr. J. R. Finch, Hon. Secretary.

The construction was carried out by Mr. J. R. McKillop, under the direction of Mr. Francis Masey, F.R.I.B.A.

To the spirit and life work of

Cecil John Rhodes

who loved and served South Africa.

The Memorial will be dedicated by

The Rt. Hon. EARL GREY, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.,

at 11 o'clock, a.m., Friday, 5th July, 1912,

in the presence of representatives from all parts of the Union of South Africa and Rhodesia.

GEO. P. COWELL
PRINTER & LITHOGRAPHER
CAPE TOWN.

K 1191